

the leg, wherein the generally linear portions of the legs face each other, and wherein the inner edge of each leg further includes an outwardly curved [a concave] arcuate portion extending toward the outer edge of the leg forwardly of the linear portion which define a void area between the legs rearwardly of the head, wherein each leg defines a first width adjacent the head and a second width greater than the first width at a location spaced rearwardly from the head.

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18. (Twice Amended) An artificial bait structure, comprising:

a head having a forward end and a rearward end; and

first and second legs extending rearwardly from the rearward end of the head,

wherein each leg defines an inner edge and an outer edge and terminates at a rearward end, and

wherein the outer edge of each leg has a generally convex shape defining a substantially continuous arc between the rearward end of the leg and a location spaced forwardly therefrom, and wherein each leg defines a first width adjacent the head and a second width greater than the first width at a location spaced rearwardly therefrom, and wherein the head and the inner edges of the legs are configured to define a void area between the legs having a first width at a forward location

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adjacent the head and a second width less than the first width at a location spaced rearwardly therefrom.

and

26. (Twice Amended) An artificial bait structure, comprising:

a head defining a forward end of the artificial bait structure and having a thickness;

5 such that each leg defines an outer edge located laterally outwardly relative to the head and such that the legs define facing inner edges, wherein the legs have a thickness less than that of the head, and wherein each leg defines a first width adjacent the head and a second width greater than the first width at a location spaced rearwardly therefrom, and wherein the leg inner edges curve outwardly away from each other rearwardly of the head to define an opening therebetween.

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27. (Amended) [The artificial bait structure of claim 26.] An artificial bait structure, comprising:

a head defining a forward end of the artificial bait structure and having a thickness;

a pair of legs extending rearwardly from the head, wherein the legs are configured

5 such that each leg defines an outer edge located laterally outwardly relative to the head and such that the legs define facing inner edges, wherein the legs have a thickness less than that of the head,

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and wherein each leg defines a first width adjacent the head and a second width greater than the first width at a location spaced rearwardly therefrom; and

10 wherein each leg defines a rib at its outer edge having a thickness greater than that of the leg inwardly of the rib.

720 (Amended) An artificial bait structure, comprising:

a head having a forward end and a rearward end; and

first and second legs extending rearwardly from the rearward end of the head,

wherein each leg defines a forward end interconnected with the head and a rearward end spaced rearwardly from the forward end, wherein each leg, throughout at least a portion of its length rearwardly of its forward end, defines an increasing width in a forward-to-rearward direction such that at least a portion of each leg located toward the leg rearward end has a width greater than a portion of each leg located toward the leg forward end, wherein each leg defines a maximum width location between a forward leg portion extending rearwardly from the head and a rearward leg portion extending forwardly from the leg rearward end, and wherein the head and the forward leg portions are configured to define an opening between the rearward end of the head and the maximum width locations of the legs.

32. (Amended) An artificial bait structure, comprising:

a head having a forward end and a rearward end; and

first and second legs extending rearwardly from the rearward end of the head,

wherein each leg defines a forward end interconnected with the head and a rearward end spaced rearwardly from the forward end, wherein each leg defines an inner edge and an outer edge, and wherein the inner edge of each leg includes an arcuate outwardly curved portion toward the forward end of each leg and a linear portion extending rearwardly from the arcuate portion, wherein the arcuate portions of the [legs] inner edges of the legs cooperate to define an opening between the legs toward the leg forward ends, and wherein the linear portions of the leg inner edges face each other and extend between the rearward end of each leg and the arcuate portion, and wherein the outer edge of each leg defines an arcuate outward curvature extending rearwardly of the head and terminating toward the leg rearward end, and wherein the linear portion of each leg inner edge is located forwardly of the termination of the outer edge of each leg.

Please add new claims 34-38 as follows.